

Message Text

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44

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ADP-00 PM-09 NSC-10 SS-14 RSC-01 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-09 NSAE-00 PA-03 PRS-01 NIC-01 ACDA-19

SAJ-01 OMB-01 EB-11 TRSE-00 COME-00 INT-08 GAC-01

XMB-07 CU-04 SCEM-02 IO-12 RSR-01 /152 W

----- 042750

R 281345 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SDCSTATE WASHDC 7531

INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG

USIA WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 3379

USIA PASS IEE, IAF

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, US, UR, CH

SUBJ: CONTACT WITH CHINESE NEWSMEN

1. HSIHUA BUREAU CHIEF AND STAFFERS HAVE EXHIBITED GREATER RECEPTIVITY TO EMBOFFS AND MAILED MATERIAL RECENTLY WHILE CHARACTERIZING CHINESE RELATIONS WITH USSR AS UNCHANGED.

2. BUREAU CHIEF TIN SIAN- CHI (PHONETIC) ATTENDED SECREATRY SHULTZ PRESS CONFERENCE MARCH 14 AT INVITATION EXTENDED WIDELY TO THIRD COUNTRY PRESS, INCLUDING EAST EUROPEANS. PRIVATELY HE ASKED IF SHULTZ VISIT TO MOSCOW WAS ARRANGED BEFORE OR AFTER KISSINGER VISIT TO PEKING.

3. AT RECEPTION MARCH 24 HSIHUA STAFFER CHEN TI- MIN ASKED ECONOMIC COUNSELOR ABOUT US INTERESTS IN TYUMEN OIL GOING TO USSR EAST COAST FOR POSSIBLE SHIPMENT WITH SAKHALIN GAS AND OIL AND SHOWED GOOD KNOWLEDGE OF MARCH 21 EX- IM BANK LOANS TO USSR WHILE SEEKING MORE DETAILS.

4. BOTH CHEN AND FELLOW STAFFER YANG CHUN- HUA SPOKE AT
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LENGTH WITH PRESS ATTACHE AND ACKNOWLEDGED WITH THANKS
RECEIPT OF UNATTRIBUTED USIA- DISTRIBUTED POCKETBOOK
CANNED " CHINA- US TABLE TENNIS '72". (POCKETBOOK ON US
ELECTIONS SENT TO HSINHUA AND CHINESE EMBASSY IN OCTOBER
HAD NOT BEEN ACKNOWLEDGED .)

5. ASKED ABOUT CHINESE- SOVIET RELATIONS, CHEN SWITCHED
FROM FRIENDLY TONE TO ANSWER FLATLY, " NOTHING NEW." HE
SAID HSINHUA STAFFERS TRAVEL LITTLE AND WORKING
CONDITIONS REMAIN " LIMITED."

6. COMMENT: ABOVE CONTACTS WERE WITHIN GUIDELINES OF
DEPATMENT' A--2674 OF APRIL 12, 1972, WHICH WE HAVE
APPLIED CONSERVATIVELY IN MOSCOW IN VIEW SOVIET SENSI-
TIVITIES. PRESS AND CULTURAL SECTION FOLLOWED GUIDANCE
OF CA-939 (MAY 18, 1971) IN MAILING POCKETBOOKS. IN VIEW
PROSPECTIVE OPENING OF US OFFICE IN PEKING, EXPECT
CHINESE OFFICIALS MAY SEEK MORE ACTIVE RELATIONSHIP HERE,
MUCH AS THEY HAVE CULTIVATED HIGH- VISIBILITY RELATIONSHIP
(E. G. LARGE BILATERAL LUNCHEONS) WITH JAPANESE EMBASSY
SINCE LAST OCTOBER. EMBASSY WOULD PLAN TO LET OUR
CONTACTS DEVELOP NORMALLY BUT TO RESIST ANY CHINESE EFFORTS
TO PUT ON A SPECIAL DISPLAY FOR SOVIET BENEFIT. WE WOULD
WELCOME ANY COMMENTS THE DEPARTMENT MIGHT HAVE ON THIS
SUBJECT.
DUBS

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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